REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

In the outstanding Official Communication, the following items were required: (1) identification of all independent claim limitations (claims 1, 2, 7, 14, 15, 21 and 22) corresponding to prior art elements in the background documentation; (2) identification of all present independent claim limitations corresponding to prior art elements in the IDS documentation filed December 12, 2005, March 20, 2006 and August 26, 2003;² (3) support noting correlation and identification of what structure, material, or acts set forth in the specification would be capable of carrying out the function recited in the step plus function limitations of independent claims 14 and 15;3 (4) All claim language that does not have antecedent basis in the descriptive portion of the specification; ⁴ (5) Identify claim language added to any present claims on amendment and any new claims and identify support for each claim limitation (including structural and functional language linking claim elements, e.g. coupled to, responsive to) by specifically pointing to page(s) and line no(s) in the specification and/or drawing figure(s) and the corresponding limitation;⁵ (6) in the event the foreign priority application is needed to support any claim limitation, applicant must identify such limitations and corresponding translated English language text in the priority application; and (7) clearly point out the patentable novelty the claims present in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited or the objections made, a showing of how the amendments avoid such references or objections must also be present.⁷

Outstanding Official Communication, page 2, item 2, paragraph beginning "In the present disclosure..."

² Outstanding Official Communication, page 3, item 2., paragraph beginning "Additionally, the examiner requests..."

³ outstanding Official Communication, page 3, paragraph beginning "The examiner also requests...".

Id.

^{5 14}

⁶ outstanding Official Communication, page 4, lines 1-5.

outstanding Official Communication, page 4, second paragraph, beginning "when responding..."

Application No. 10/647,291 Reply to Office Action of April 26, 2006

In response to the requests in the outstanding Official Communication, Applicants respectfully submit that the documentation required to be submitted is unknown and/or is not readily available to the party or parties from which it was requested.⁸

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that a complete reply to the 37 C.F.R. §1.105 requirement has been submitted and that Applicants are in complete compliance with the requirement.

Consequently, in view of the foregoing discussion, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Eckhard H. Kuesters Attorney of Record

Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 06/04)

1:\ATTY\JL\241856US\241856Us_Req_Recon.doc

⁸ see M.P.E.P. §704.12(b).